

Appin No. 10/760,259
Amdt. Dated June 6, 2006
Response to Office Action of April 18, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks Examiner for the detailed Office Action dated April 18, 2006. In response to the issues raised, the Applicant offers the following submissions and amendments.

Amendments

The invention is now defined in newly presented claims 13 to 16. All previously presented claims have now been cancelled. Newly presented claim 13 highlights the spacing of the resilient members to best cushion the cartridge during insertion the cradle. These features are shown and described at page 23, lines 24-29 and in Figure 27.

Accordingly, the amendments do not add any new matter.

35 U.S.C. §102 - Claims 1, 5, 7 to 9

Claims 1, 5, 7 to 9 stand rejected for lack of novelty in light of US 6,390,615 to Carrese et al. These claims have been cancelled and the invention recast in newly presented Claims 13 to 16.

New claims 13 to 16 define the spaced positioning of the resilient members for biasing the inkjet cartridge against the retainer. As discussed on page 23 of the description, the resilient members on the cradle will cushion any shock loading on the cartridge as it is loaded into the printer. Shock loading the cartridge can de-prime the ink from some of the nozzles in the printhead. Pagewidth printheads are particularly prone to this as the longitudinal axis of the cartridge can be tilted as it is inserted into the cradle. This raises the hydrostatic ink pressure in the lowermost nozzles well above that of the upper nozzles. The additional hydrostatic pressure and the shock loading can combine to force ink from some nozzles, and bleed onto the capping surface. Furthermore, it is one or other of the end portions of the cartridge that are likely to contact the cradle first. This initial contact is usually associated with the highest single shock load to the cartridge during user insertion of it into the cradle. The cradle of the present invention positions at least one the resilient members proximate each end to cushion the initial contact.

Carrese does not disclose a cartridge with an ink storage volume, a pagewidth printhead and a fluid connection extending between them. Likewise it does not disclose an elongate recess configured to receive the cartridge or a plurality of resilient members, at least one being positioned proximate each end of the elongate recess.

Accordingly, claims 13 to 16 are novel in light of the Carrese reference.

35 U.S.C. §103 - Claims 4 and 8

Claims 4 and 8 stand rejected as obvious in light of Carreses in view of US 2002/0118263 to Watanabe et al.

Claims 4 and 8 have been cancelled and as discussed above, Carrese fails to anticipate all the elements of new claim 13. Watanabe also fails to teach a cartridge with a pagewidth printhead supplied with ink from an ink storage, or the resilient members in the elongate recess required by the present invention.

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Accordingly, these references do not support a §103 rejection of claim 13. It follows that dependent claims 14-16 are likewise novel and inventive.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been successfully traversed and the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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